

CITY OF ALAMEDA

Memorandum

To: Honorable Mayor and
Members of the City Council

From: Lisa Goldman
Acting City Manager

Date: February 1, 2011

Re: Award a Contract to Columbia Electric in the Amount of \$234,000,
Authorize a 20% Contingency to Implement the Woodstock to Webster
Street Neighborhood Improvement Project, and Authorize the Acting City
Manager to Execute the Contract and Related Documents

BACKGROUND

The Woodstock to Webster Street Neighborhood Improvement Project is an important streetscape and neighborhood revitalization project funded through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. The installation of the streetscape improvements, such as the streetlights and trees, is a necessary step in the first phase of implementation of the West Alameda Neighborhood Improvement Plan prepared in 2005. Lighting and landscaping within the neighborhood will improve security and safety as well as beautify the area.

In 2003, the City Council authorized \$217,099 in CDBG funding for the implementation of the Woodstock to Webster Neighborhood Improvement Project. In 2004, 2005, and 2006, the City Council added CDBG funds to the program budget in order to complete the purchase and installation of the light fixtures along with new and replacement planting of trees.

On January 26, 2010, the City Council approved a contract to purchase 25 light standards for the project with these allocated CDBG funds. These light standards are to be installed as part of this contract. The light standards were purchased, delivered and are ready for installation.

DISCUSSION

Staff worked with Alameda Municipal Power (AMP) to develop plans and specifications for the installation of light standards and retained an arborist to complete a survey of trees in the neighborhood and a proposed planting plan. In September 2010, a call for bids was issued. The bid package was placed on the City's website, and individual packets were sent to more than ten contractors. Since no bids were received by the

end of the bid period, staff compiled a new packet of information and solicited bids. In December 2010, the City received two bids. Columbia Electric submitted the lowest bid for a total of \$234,000.

The first phase of the Woodstock to Webster Street Neighborhood Improvement Project includes the purchase and installation of 69 streetlights, and removal of existing cobra-head streetlights. Columbia Electric will also use a subcontractor to replace dead and dying trees. Tree removal and replacement will be based on the arborist's report and selection of new tree stock will be in accordance with the City's Master Tree Plan. A copy of the proposed contract with Columbia Electric is on file in the City Clerk's Office.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

This project is funded with CDBG monies and does not impact the City's General Fund. A total of \$574,259 in CDBG funds (Fund No. 236, Program Number 623550) is currently available for implementing the project. A 20% contingency is needed to provide flexibility in the event of unforeseen issues.

MUNICIPAL CODE/POLICY DOCUMENT CROSS REFERENCE

The project's specifications and the call for bids were prepared in accordance with AMP standards and Federal CDBG rules and regulations. The call for bids encouraged businesses owned by women or minorities to bid, and all contractors and other businesses providing services to the City to hire Alameda residents, pursuant to City Resolution No. 12278.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

This project is subject to compliance with the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA). The activities proposed are categorically excluded from NEPA.


RECOMMENDATION

Award a contract to Columbia Electric in the amount of \$234,000, authorize a 20% contingency to implement the Woodstock to Webster Street Neighborhood Improvement Project, and authorize the Acting City Manager to execute the contract and related documents.

Respectfully submitted,


Jennifer Ott
Deputy City Manager

Approved as to funds and account,


Fred Marsh
Controller